

If Sinclair Broadcasting is able to force an anti-Kerry documentary onto the air mere days before the election, it seems like a clear abuse of power, a violation of fairness and ethics laws, and a warning sign of the dangers of increasing media consolidation.

Media ownership rules must be made stricter and narrower. Our democracy depends in part upon lack of partisan control of the media. Sinclair's upcoming anti-Kerry broadcast is morally, ethically, and legally reprehensible (just as any comparable anti-Bush broadcast would be), and, if it is allowed to continue unchecked, a truly ominous sign of things to come. Don't let television become an extension of political power and an instrument of propaganda in these desperate and divided times.